The Kirwan Institute for the Study of Race and Ethnicity is an interdisciplinary, university-wide engaged research institute. We work to understand the causes of, and solutions for, racial and ethnic disparities, and to bring about a society that is fair and just for all people.

Our research is designed to be actively used to solve problems in society. Our expertise is shared through a national network of colleagues and partners, ranging from researchers to grassroots activists to policy-makers to community leaders, who can put our research into action.
We
Did...
Our Purpose

The Kirwan Institute for the Study of Race and Ethnicity is an interdisciplinary engaged research institute at The Ohio State University. Our goal is to connect individuals and communities with the opportunities needed to thrive. The Institute works to educate the public, to build capacity of allied social justice organizations, and to influence policy, practice, and investments in support of equity and inclusion. All of the work of the Kirwan Institute focuses on the antecedents, status and needs of society’s most vulnerable and marginalized communities, families, and children.

Our mission is simple: we work to create a just and inclusive society where all people and communities have opportunity to succeed.
1 Film
“A Reading of the Letter from Birmingham Jail”

85 Organizations
We Have Collaborated With

650 State of the Science: Implicit Bias Review 2013
Distributed

2 Amicus Briefs Filed in Support of
The University of Texas in the *Fisher v. UT* case

85 Community Presentations on
Implicit Bias and Structural Racialization
14 Reports Published

1 Book Published
“Where Credit is Due”

5 Classes Taught

14 Class Lectures

20 Graduate Associates & Interns Hired
Dear Supporters

It is my great pleasure to share with you this Annual Report highlighting some of The Kirwan Institute’s accomplishments in 2013-14. Throughout the pages that follow you will see multiple manifestations of our enduring commitment to work with partners and communities nationwide to help create a society where all families and communities have the opportunity to thrive.

Kirwan pursues this vision by conducting research and employing emerging knowledge to help deepen awareness of the social forces and institutional arrangements that create impediments to opportunity, and by helping communities develop strategies to empower families to succeed.

Our projects have taken us from coast to coast, with work in Massachusetts, New York, Michigan, Ohio, Missouri, South Dakota, California, Texas, Alabama, Louisiana, Washington, D.C.,
and elsewhere, all in pursuit of knowledge to advance the common good. Our Opportunity Communities framework and our Opportunity Maps continue to guide the work and investments of community developers, policymakers, advocacy agencies, administrative agencies, foundations, and others to improve the conditions that surround people’s lives.

In 2013, the Kirwan Institute entered its second decade of work by launching a new publication, the State of the Science Implicit Bias Review, which took the field by storm and introduced countless audiences to the most recent findings from brain science about unconscious bias. Recognizing the importance of this emerging body of knowledge for every domain of social life, including health, education, employment, housing and justice, we have committed to publishing a new issue every year.

Illuminating the connections between health and health outcomes and the uneven system of “Opportunity Structures” to which individuals have access—the “social determinants” that contribute so powerfully to health, and that fuel disparities—has become a much bigger part of the work of the Kirwan Institute as well. We are poised to make important impacts in this area in the months ahead as we focus on differential infant mortality rates, cardiovascular disease, life expectancies, emergency room usage, and more.

We also produced and premiered our first film, A Reading of the Letter from Birmingham Jail, to help the nation celebrate the 50th anniversary of the drafting of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.’s timeless defense of nonviolent agitation to create a more just and inclusive society. King’s lesson—“We are caught in an inescapable network of mutuality, tied in a single garment of destiny”—continues to guide Kirwan’s work, and lights the path ahead.

We are deeply grateful for your partnership in and financial support of Kirwan’s work. It has assisted, energized and empowered us. We are so pleased to give you a glimpse of some of the good work that your friendship has made possible in the pages that follow.

Thank you for your support,
We Did
Streamline how we engage communities

This year, the Institute’s initiatives continue to grow as we are proactive in seeking partnerships. We have expanded our Opportunity Mapping methodology to include more participatory activities. Moreover, we’ve increased our research focus intently on health disparities and ex-offender reentry.

The Kirwan Institute supports racially equitable policy and capacity building through its Opportunity Communities model. This model considers the factors such as housing, education, jobs, transportation, health, and engagement that stand at the center of one’s life and structure our community.

All of the work of the Kirwan Institute begins with the premise that everyone should have fair access to the critical opportunity structures and the social infrastructure needed to succeed in life, and the belief that affirmatively connecting people to opportunity creates positive, transformative change in communities.

Our model advocates for an equitable investment in all people and neighborhoods, to improve the life outcomes of all citizens and to improve the health of entire regions.

Adoptions of our Opportunity Communities framework have expanded considerably as a result of its incorporation into the HUD Sustainable Communities Initiative and its expanding use by equity advocates. Evaluations of our influence and impacts have been conducted in the Puget Sound region, Austin, Texas; Dayton, Ohio; Connecticut and Massachusetts. Interviews of peer partners to assess impact include organizations across the United States.
The Opportunity Communities Model

Our model is designed to create a just and inclusive society where all people and communities have the opportunity to succeed.

Framework for Engagement & Capacity Building

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The Kirwan Institute plays a critical role as a trusted convener to enable information sharing and strategy development in the broader social justice field. This year, the Institute has worked with 85 partner organizations in more than half of the states in America.

We Did
Demonstrate the power of partnership

Strategic partnerships and collaboration is a priority, enabling us to expand the reach of our research through the diverse advocacy work of our partners.

Key partnerships with national organizations have included work with: The Joint Center, The Opportunity Agenda, PolicyLink, NAACP LDF, PRRAC, The Insight Center, The National Coalition on School Diversity, Hispanic Substance Abuse Network, The Diversity Data Initiative (Brandeis University), Charles Hamilton Houston Institute (Harvard), Haas Center for Diversity & Inclusion (UC Berkeley), UNC Center for Civil Rights and multiple African American Male Achievement Initiatives.

Kirwan also provides strategic assistance to our partners at the local and national levels through our participation on various boards and committees.
The Kirwan Institute’s collaborative role leverages our impact, and supports the ecosystem of social change allies. We have deep gratitude for all our funders, partners and supporters.

It heartens us that we receive support from many donors and partners. Without your support the Institute would not be able to engage communities in the way that it does.

You supported us in advocating for equitable federal policies and practices, expanding Opportunity Communities training and analysis, challenging implicit bias in juvenile justice and education, and evaluating structural interventions.

Moreover, your support has allowed us to expand our expertise and interests. Increasing our communications capacity has afforded us the opportunity to produce the film, *A Reading of the Letter from Birmingham Jail*, using in-house resources. We’ve increased our research capacity to include more comprehensive research on implicit bias and health disparities.

With your continued support we are poised to further expand our impacts in our second decade, and we are confident that our work will continue to have a direct impact on access to opportunity for marginalized communities and have a deep influence on the social justice field.
FUNDERS

The Ford Foundation
The W.K. Kellogg Foundation
Open Society Foundation
The California Endowment
The Kresge Foundation
The Interfaith Funders Group
The Columbus Foundation
The Cleveland Foundation
Annie E. Casey Foundation
The Jessie Ball DuPont Fund
The Greater New Orleans Foundation
The Dream Fund – Public Interest Projects
Atlantic Philanthropies

PARTNERS

Hispanic Substance Abuse Network
The Diversity Data Initiative (Brandeis University)
Charles Hamilton Houston Institute for Race & Justice
(Harvard Law School)
Haas Center for a Fair & Inclusive Society (UC Berkeley)
Institute on Race & Poverty (U. of Minnesota)
Center for Civil Rights (UNC School of Law)
The National Coalition on School Diversity
Poverty & Race Research Action Council
The Opportunity Agenda
PolicyLink
The Insight Center for Community Economic Development
The Advancement Project
NAACP Legal Defense Fund
PICO National
U.S. Department of Housing & Urban Development
City Match
National Council of La Raza
National Fair Housing Alliance
The Appleseed Network
The Gamaliel Network
ACLU National
Community Land Trust Network
American Bar Association
National Legal Aid & Defender Association
National Asian Pacific American Caucus of State Legislators

The National Black Caucus of State Legislators
The National Caucus of Native American Legislators
The National Hispanic Caucus of State Legislators
2025 Campaign for Black Men and Boys
Puget Sound Regional Planning Commission
White Center CDA
Columbia Legal Services
Northwest Justice Project
Portland, OR Urban League
United Way of Merced, CA
Washington County, OR Department of Community Development
Northern California Legal Services
Health City LA
Connecticut Fair Housing Center
Massachusetts Law Reform Institute
New York Stimulus Alliance
Maryland ACLU
Montclair, NJ School District
Michigan Roundtable for Diversity & Inclusion
M.O.S.E.S. Detroit
Data Driven Detroit
Michigan Commission on Minority Health
Columbus Community Development Collaborative
Columbus Public Health Department
Ohio Coalition to End Infant Mortality
The President’s Council of Cleveland
AMOS Cincinnati
BREAD Columbus
Jefferson County School District
Ohio Board of Education
Ohio Department of Public Health
United Way of Central Ohio
Communities Creating Opportunity (Kansas City)
Advocates for Basic Legal Equality
Mississippi Gulf Coast Regional Planning Commission
Gulf Coast Community Design Center
STEPS Coalition of Mississippi
Southern Mississippi Planning and Development Coalition
Greater New Orleans Fair Housing Center
The MICAH Project New Orleans
Duval County Children Commission
Metro Public Health Department Nashville, TN
Greater New Orleans Data Center
Houston-Galveston Area Regional Planning
Green Doors of Austin TX
The Kirwan Institute team has evolved into four strong units: research, communications, outreach and administrative. These finely tuned units all support the Opportunity Communities Framework. This allows us to work more collaboratively, improves our services, and increases our influence in the field.

The Kirwan Institute’s Opportunity Communities framework has evolved from an innovative approach to assess fair housing to a social change model widely embraced and implemented by advocacy and nonprofit stakeholders and public sector partners across the United States.

Our work has influenced fair housing reform at the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).

Our staff has played a key role in building the local capacity of community-based, nonprofit, public sector and philanthropic partners in cities and regions across the nation.

The Institute has worked with partner organizations across United States.

The Institute’s groundbreaking *State of the Science: Implicit Bias Review 2013* received a tremendously positive response from a vast range of individuals, policymakers, researchers, and organizations.

Finally, Kirwan’s active engagement in the *Fisher v. University of Texas* case has served as a catalyst for greater collaboration among African American male achievement programs working to reshape access to opportunity for African American males.
OUR TEAM

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

SHARON DAVIES

RESEARCH

JASON REECE
Research Director

DAVID NORRIS
Director of Opportunity Mapping

MATTHEW MARTIN
Research Associate II/Opportunity Mapping

MIKYUNG BAEK
Research Associate/Opportunity Mapping

CHERYL STAATS
Research Associate II/Social Science

KWAME CHRISTIAN
Research Associate/Law

CHARLES NOBLE
Research Associate/Law

OUTREACH & ENGAGEMENT

CHRISTY ROGERS
Outreach Director

JILLIAN OLINGER
Research Associate II

DWIGHT “KIP” HOLLEY
Research Associate

COMMUNICATIONS

JAMAAL BELL
Strategic Communications Director

ASHLEY WILSON
Communications Coordinator

JASON DUFFIELD
Web & Graphic Design Specialist

ADMINISTRATION

TARA MCCOY
Fiscal & Human Resources Officer

BARBARA CARTER
Assistant to the Executive Director/Office Manager
MILESTONES

THE FILM
THE STATE OF THE SCIENCE
BLACK MALE ACHIEVEMENT
SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES
MORE ACTIVITIES
For the first time in history we made a non-fiction film commemorating Martin Luther King, Jr.'s famous “Letter from Birmingham Jail.” The film stars community leaders of Columbus, Ohio and educators and leaders of The Ohio State University.

In March of 2013, Jim Baggett, the head archivist of the Birmingham Public Library, contacted Sharon Davies, Executive Director of the Kirwan Institute, about the idea to have an international day of remembrance of MLK’s famous “Letter from Birmingham Jail,” 50 years after its drafting.

Its April 16 anniversary was approaching fast. The idea was to have the “Letter from Birmingham Jail” read by community leaders in cities around the globe on the anniversary. She agreed to organize an effort here in Columbus.

The idea continued to evolve in unexpected ways, ultimately resulting in a non-fiction film that gives The Letter new life.

We believed it was important to include our community leaders. Our goal was to create a timeless educational piece that united Columbus and The Ohio State University’s leaders around this important and world famous literary piece.

The plan was to then gift the taped reading of MLK’s Letter by Columbus leaders to the Birmingham Public Library and the City of Birmingham. That plan continued to grow when Kirwan’s invitations to various leaders (including U.S. Senators, Congress and State Senate Members, federal judges, university presidents, athletic leaders,
A Reading of the Letter From Birmingham Jail
business leaders, philanthropic leaders, Heisman trophy winners, and more) were eagerly accepted, and the recording of their segments got underway. As one might imagine, with their busy schedules to contend with, that took some time to complete.

Once finished, thanks to the United Way of Central Ohio, we held its grand premiere November 3 at Columbus’ own historic Martin Luther King, Jr. Arts Complex. We received nothing but rave reviews and the community discussion afterward was so impactful, that we took the film on the road.

In the two months after the film’s premiere we’ve scheduled more than 17 additional screenings including: The National Underground Railroad Freedom Institute.
dom Center in Cincinnati, Nationwide Children’s Hospital, Columbus Urban League, The Ohio Attorney Generals Office, and more. Moreover, the film aired locally primetime on our PBS station.

Thanks to the Columbus Foundation we’ve distributed a DVD copy of this historical film to every Ohio school district and library system.

Charles Noble, Moritz College of Law Graduate and Kirwan Researcher was the producer of this film, handling many of the logistical details and ensuring quality. The film was directed by Jamaal Bell, Kirwan’s Director of Communications with the assistance of Rick Harrison and Joe Camoriano of University Communications. Bell also produced the visual effects and edited the film.

Cast

(4th row left-to-right) Sharon Davies, Executive Director, Kirwan Institute for the Study of Race and Ethnicity, OSU; Sherrod Brown, US Senator, Ohio; Shirley Duncan, Widow of the late Judge Robert M. Duncan; Stephanie Hightower, President/CEO, Columbus Urban League; Valerie Lee, Vice Provost for Diversity & Inclusion; Yvette McGee Brown, Partner, Jones Day; Charles Booth, Lead Pastor, Mt. Olivet Baptist Church; Charleta Tavares, State Senator, Ohio – 15th District; Clark Kellogg, Vice President of Player Affairs, Indiana Pacers; Nancy Rogers, Professor Emeritus of Law, Michael E. Moritz College of Law, OSU; Urban Meyer, Head Football Coach, OSU.
The Institute has become increasingly mindful of how implicit racial biases shape not only individuals’ cognition and attitudes, but also behaviors. Examining implicit bias research is important for all who work for racial justice.

The Institute’s most visible, impactful, and influential contribution to the field of implicit bias in 2013 was the publication of its *State of the Science: Implicit Bias Review*.

Designed as an annual publication, this research review expanded knowledge about the cognitive forces that can unconsciously influence individual behavior and contribute to societal inequities.

The 102-page 2013 edition provided an in-depth summary of implicit racial bias and how it functions. The publication included three chapters examining how implicit bias operates in the domains of education, criminal justice, and health/health care.

Since its February launch, we have done numerous implicit bias presentations and even considered its role in light of the Zimmerman verdict in Florida.

Locally, we’ve built a network of implicit bias experts to create collaboratively executed university-wide events and programs to create and foster conversations about implicit bias.
The Kirwan Institute has been actively involved in the Fisher v. University of Texas litigation. We have been involved nationally in strategizing efforts to secure pathways into college for youth of color.

Kirwan drafted and filed amicus briefs with the United States Supreme Court and with the 5th Circuit Court in support of the UT’s admissions policies. Those policies allowed race to be considered as one of a multiple of factors in a full-file review of applicants’ talents, backgrounds and academic promise in order to enroll a highly diverse class and attain the educational benefits of student body diversity.

Our Executive Director has spoken to numerous audiences around the country about the Fisher case, raising awareness and influencing action about the issues involved. Director Davies highlights the importance of keeping pathways into college open to traditionally underrepresented minority students whose K-12 experiences disproportionately continue to put them at a disadvantage in the college application process.

Both briefs were filed on behalf of a National Coalition of African American Male Achievement Initiatives, to bring the issue of the little known crisis-level low enrollment of Black males at selective universities to the courts’ attention.
Since 2010, the Kirwan Institute has provided technical assistance to HUD in building capacity for equity in sustainable communities planning activities.

In partnership with PolicyLink (Oakland, CA), PERE (USC), and with HUD’s support, the Kirwan Institute has acted as a technical assistance (TA) provider to assist in building capacity for equity for SCI grantees across the country.

We’ve provided guidance to communities on opportunity mapping, civic engagement, and interpreting Fair Housing and Equity Assessments.

The Institute has evaluated the impacts of this work through in-depth interviews with partner organizations and by monitoring activities and implementation of equity-focused policies connected to our model. More specifically, evaluations of our influence and impacts have been conducted in the Puget Sound region; Austin, Texas; Dayton, Ohio; Connecticut, and Massachusetts, and in interviews with peer partners across the United States.
Houston-Galveston Area Council (H-GAC)

Working in collaboration with H-GAC, the Institute facilitated an opportunity mapping initiative in the 13-county Texas Gulf Coast planning region to inform the region’s Fair Housing Equity Assessment (FHEA). At 12,500 square miles, the H-GAC service area is larger than 9 other states’ total areas and poses a challenge for opportunity mapping, both in scale and in geographic and economic diversity. For this reason, we are exploring with H-GAC the development of a meaningful typology of sub-regions for opportunity.

Greater New Orleans/Baton Rouge Super-Region

Kirwan is collaborating with the Greater New Orleans Foundation (GNOF) to identify and understand the geography of opportunity across the New Orleans/Baton Rouge super-region. As in Houston-Galveston, the NOLA/BR super-region encompasses a diversity of economic bases and community types and thus lends itself to a typology approach. In addition, GNOF and their stakeholders have identified several key advocacy issues that can be informed and supported by Kirwan’s opportunity mapping and engagement process.

Pine Ridge Indian Reservation, South Dakota

The Institute is worked with PolicyLink to help prepare the first opportunity and equity assessment for the tribe, completed in early 2014. The assessment will be critical to secure future funding for reservation housing and development projects. We are also providing expert advice as the tribe establishes a regional planning office. Independent of the equity assessment work, Kirwan has agreed to provide GIS support to the tribe’s land office to support the recent $126 million Cobell settlement, which will provide monies that the tribe can use to acquire and consolidate split-interest lands (land holdings that, through generations of Native American family inheritance, now effectively have dozens or even hundreds of beneficial owners). This represents a historic opportunity for the tribe to expand its tribal land holdings and the potential to generate additional revenue through leases and other land use agreements.
Green Doors in Austin, Texas

The Kirwan Institute has completed a two-year collaboration with Green Doors, a nonprofit to house the homeless in Austin, Texas. As a part of that collaboration, Kirwan prepared a follow-up region-wide opportunity mapping assessment examining neighborhood change dynamics to guide affordable housing policy. The work involved a committee of partners, including the City of Austin, Travis County, the Housing Authority of the City of Austin, the Housing Authority of Travis County, and the Capital Area Council of Governments (CAPCOG), whose participation as a Sustainable Communities Initiative (SCI) grantee will pull many of these findings into its regional Fair Housing and Equity Assessment.

Mapping for the Gulf Regional Planning Commission

Kirwan provided local FHEA technical assistance and opportunity mapping in coastal Mississippi to assist HUD’s SCI grantee, the Gulf Regional Planning Commission.

Christy Rogers, Director of Outreach, is the lead editor of a book just released in December 2013, Where Credit is Due: Bringing Equity to Credit and Housing After the Market Meltdown. This 16-chapter book gathers together the insights of some of the nation’s leading housing policy researchers, practitioners, and thinkers about the highly racialized impacts of the housing and foreclosure crisis, and provides a framework for national and local policy reforms in support of stable and equitable communities for all Americans. Christy Rogers has collaborated with national civil rights organizations (La Raza, Urban League, NAACP, National CAPACD, and others), community economic development associations, fair housing associations, consumer protection groups, and communications leaders to shape the agenda for fair housing and fair credit research needs and priorities for 2014.
Kirwan staff are engaged citizens of The Ohio State University. Whether it is teaching classes, supporting the university’s outreach and engagement initiatives, or hosting and supporting campus events, we foster incisive thinking and a spirit of collaboration. We are Ohio forged and globally minded.

In addition to working at the Kirwan Institute full-time, our leaders regularly teach classes at The Ohio State University. From the Michael E. Moritz College of Law to the Austin E. Knowlton School of Architecture, we challenge students and show them how race plays a role in law, in health, in education, and city and regional planning.

Our staff is often invited to classes across campus to offer our perspective on race, implicit bias, and Opportunity Communities, and to share our nationally regarded work.

This year we’ve supported dozens of events on campus, either financially or through staff participation. With The Ohio State University Office of Outreach and Engagement, we work with academic units who wish to engage in meaningful work with our Columbus community.

The Institute is proud to be part of The Ohio State University. We enjoy collaborating with academic, administrative and student life units.
Our work has produced critical lessons in bridging research, advocacy and policy change, including connecting with local leadership, building capacity, and creating the conditions for sustainable implementation.

In 2012, Executive Director Sharon Davies launched the health equity program. Building upon our experience in systems theory, mapping and place-based interventions, we partner with government agencies, organizations and individuals both locally and nationally to support equitable health policy and practice. This year we have completed following projects:

**Toledo, OH: Environmental Justice Analysis**

The Institute collaborated with Legal Aid attorneys and community organizers in Toledo, Ohio to track and identify the racial impact of lead paint exposure on primarily African American youth.

**Birmingham, AL: Environmental Justice Analysis**

Working with community advocates in Birmingham, Alabama, the Institute was able to provide technical support to local organizers, halting the expansion of an industrial railway into an African American community.
The PICO Bringing Health Reform Home Campaign in New Orleans and Kansas City

Kirwan partnered with PICO National Network and Communities Creating Opportunity (CCO) in Kansas City, and with MICAH in New Orleans, to build a common understanding of sustainable and equitable community health. Our studies mapped high concentrations of emergency room usage (“hot spots”), in order to better understand the primary care needs of the community, the costs of using the emergency room system, and how to reinvest in these “hot spot” communities to build healthier families. The Bringing Health Reform Home reports for Kansas City and New Orleans can be found and downloaded on our website under the “Building Health Communities of Opportunity” section.

Wyandotte County, KS: CCO Initiative

In collaboration with Communities Creating Opportunity, the Institute is supporting the second phase of Kansas City’s Bring Health Reform Home Campaign. Working with several major hospital systems and PICO organizers in Kansas City, the Institute is conducting
extensive emergency room and chronic disease mapping to understand opportunities for community-based interventions to support health equity.

Diabetes and Infant Mortality Hot Spot Interactive Mapping System

With the support of the Ohio Commission on Minority Health, and in collaboration with the Ohio Department of Health, the Institute developed the first Health Equity Mapping System for the State of Ohio, mapping diabetes and infant mortality “hot spots” along with social determinants of health. The Institute has utilized these maps to provide a resource for health practitioners, in order to identify areas of highest need and overlay programmatic activities and investments. In addition, the Kirwan Institute has developed a series of policy briefs addressing the impacts of health inequity, the impact of social determinants of health for racial and ethnic groups across the life course, and infant mortality disparities in Ohio.

These briefs can be accessed online at:


Health Equity Mapping Webinar Series

The Institute hosted a three-part webinar series “There’s a Map for That” for the Michigan Minority Health Coalition. The three-part webinar series covered the following topics:

- **Part I: Designing a Health Equity Mapping Initiative From Start to Finish**
- **Part II: Introduction to Mapping for Health Equity Advocacy**
- **Part III: Capacity Building and Partnerships**

Ohio Health Disparities Collaborative Website

In collaboration with Children’s Defense Fund of Ohio, the Institute assisted in the development and launch of the Ohio Statewide Health
Disparities Collaborative website, a comprehensive resource site for policymakers and practitioners working to support health equity.

The website is accessible at:

http://www.ohiohealthdisparitiescollaborative.org/

Committee Memberships

The Institute is actively engaged in several ongoing health equity committees in Ohio, including the Ohio Statewide Health Disparities Collaborative, The Chronic Disease Workgroup for the State of Ohio, the HPIO Social, Economic & Physical Environments Workgroup and the Ohio Infant Mortality Prevention Coalition.

Capacity-building Presentations, Workshops and Engagements

Kirwan Institute staff have presented research, analysis and models for health equity at the following engagements:

- Teaching on Environmental Justice and Health Equity, The Schweitzer Fellows Program, Ohio
- Ohio Governor’s Early Childhood Advisory Council, The Early Education and Development Office of the Governor
- “Saving Ohio’s Babies: Preventing Premature Birth and Other Causes of Our Infant Mortality Crisis,” March of Dimes Northeast Ohio Regional Convening
- “Saving Ohio’s Babies: Preventing Premature Birth and Other Causes of Our Infant Mortality Crisis,” March of Dimes Cincinnati and Northern Kentucky Regional Convening
- “Saving Ohio’s Babies: Preventing Premature Birth and Other Causes of Our Infant Mortality Crisis,” March of Dimes Columbus Regional Convening
- “Theories and Criticism of Contemporary Food Systems,” The Ohio State University’s National Situating Food Symposium
- All State Plenary—Quality Improvement Approaches to Social Determinants, Convening for the Collaborative Improvement and Innovation Network (CoIIN) to Reduce Infant Mortality featuring The Association of Maternal & Child Health Programs (AMCHP) and the Association of State and Territorial Health Officials (ASTHO)
- Launch of the Ohio Health Equity Institute, Sponsored by CityMatch and the Ohio Department of Health
- Wyandotte County Health Opportunity Mapping for Equity Initiative, Kansas City, Kansas
- “Food & Nutrition: Building Blocks for Thriving & Resilient Communities,” Mid Ohio Foodbank Annual Network Meeting; Ohio
- “Reclaiming the Narrative,” W.K. Kellogg Foundation National 2013 America Healing Conference
- Building Data Capacity for Racial Equity Convening, Hosted by the W.K. Kellogg Foundation, Battle Creek, Michigan
- The Ohio Statewide Summit to Prevent Infant Mortality
- The ACHIEVE Healthy Policies for Healthy Children Action Institute, Columbus Department of Health
- CityMatch (The National Organization of Urban MCH Leaders) National Conference
- Interdisciplinary Research Training Institute on Hispanic Drug Abuse (IRTI), Sponsored by the National Hispanic Science Network on Drug Abuse & the Center for Drug and Social Policy Research at University of Houston
The Future
Looking ahead to another challenging year

In the midst of major issues such as challenges to Affirmative Action in higher education, the effects of neighborhood disadvantages on health, well-being, and mortality, and ex-offender reentry, we’re dedicated to being a strong research partner in 2015.

2015 Health Equity Research Agenda

The Kirwan Institute will focus on marginalized communities and deepen the understanding of multigenerational effects of neighborhood disadvantage on health, well-being and mortality. The Institute believes our interactive mapping tools that identify health “hot spots” and develop asset and opportunity maps to support health equity can be expanded nationally. Along with addressing structural issues, we believe it is imperative to include our “Race and Cognition” research into the domain of health, with an emphasis on the role of implicit bias on diagnostic disparities and the impacts of trauma on disparities in youth development. Finally, we will identify cross-sector “best practices” in place-based initiatives, and disseminate an in-depth examination of those practices using creative multimedia strategies.

2015 Sustainable Community and Housing Research Agenda

The Kirwan Institute will continue to advance racial justice and equity through engaged research that seeks to fuel policy change, catalyze transformative investments, raise public awareness, build
capacity, and support new programming that addresses the needs of marginalized communities, families and children. This work related to our community development and housing program will proceed through three core strategies.

**Supporting Racial Equity in Planning & Neighborhood Development**

**Implicit Bias, Fair Housing and Fair Lending**

**Enhancing Access to Housing Opportunity**

### 2015 Education Research Agenda

The Institute’s education activities in 2015 will be focused on raising awareness on the role of childhood trauma on child development, including a partnership with the United Way of Central Ohio to publish the 2015 Champion of Children’s report, focusing on the impact of trauma and the mental tax of poverty.

We will be expanding our implicit bias and school discipline disparity research initiative, looking at strategies to incorporate implicit bias into educator training and curriculum.

We will continue to expand our knowledge of place-based collective impact strategies for pursuing equity in K-12 education.

### 2015 Criminal Justice Research Agenda

The Institute’s criminal justice activities will focus on several issues including expanding our training, engagement and knowledge of the impacts of implicit bias in the criminal justice system.

We will conduct research and capacity building activities to look at the impacts of ex-offender disenfranchisement policies.

We will deepen our understanding of “re-entry” hotspots (neighborhoods of high prison re-entry) and identifying community development solutions to address crime and safety in these communities.

Finally, we will help address the public health crisis of gun violence, which disproportionately threatens young men of color.

### 2015 Storytelling Through Films Agenda

We plan to uplift community-based organizations and critical issues through storytelling and film. We hope to show why and how average Americans are working to improve their communities.

Furthermore, we want to raise awareness and education on critical issues such as infant mortality, implicit bias, black males and ex-offender reentry.

We plan to film a series of documentaries and educational videos throughout 2015.

Thank you for all your support